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REPORT OF THE HISTORICAL
GEORGE W. DUNN

TWELFTH ANNUAL REVIEW



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REPORT OF THE HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

GEORGE W. DUNCAN, CHAIRMAN

TWELFTH ANNUAL REUNION
CONVENTION

UNITED SONS
OF
CONFEDERATE VETERANS

RICHMOND, VA.

MAY 30-JUNE 3, 1907

NASHVILLE, TENN.:
PRESS OF BRANDON PRINTING COMPANY
1908

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IN EXCHANGE.

Alo. Dept. of Ar. & Hist.

NOV 24 1908



Report of Historical Committee.

By George W. Duncan, Chairman.

Introduction.

The Historical Committee submits the following report for the Confederation year ending June 3, 1907:

The members of the committee, as constituted in General Orders No. 11, 1906, are as follows:

George W. Duncan, Chairman, Auburn, Ala.	
George Petrie, Auburn, Ala.	Lee Meriwether, St. Louis, Mo.
W. M. Kavanaugh, Little Rock, Ark.	D. H. Hill, Raleigh, N. C.
F. W. Mahood, Washington, D. C.	E. T. Bynum, Norman, Okla.
R. T. McEachern, Jacksonville, Fla.	P. H. Mell, Clemson College, S. C.
Wm. F. Jones, Elberton, Ga.	John H. DeWitt, Nashville, Tenn.
E. J. Giddings, Ardmore, I. T.	Homer D. Wade, Waco, Texas.
Ed. P. Thompson, Jr., Frankfort, Ky.	R. S. Blackburn Smith, Berryville, Va.
W. H. McLellan, New Orleans, La.	
J. Pierce Bruns, Baltimore, Md.	W. L. Fleming, Baton Rouge, La.
Dunbar Rowland, Jackson, Miss.	Ray P. Saffold, San Francisco, Cal.

The work and activities of the committee have been a continuation of the work as outlined in Circular No. 4, and followed in the report for 1906 with some additional lines of work as suggested in the following letter from the Commander-in-Chief to the chairman of the committee, under date of September 3, 1906:

I have the honor to address you in reference to the work of the Historical Committee of our Confederation for 1906-1907. The very full and satisfactory character of your report for 1905-1906 leads me to expect as good results for the next year. I respectfully recommend a continuance of the policy adopted by the committee in previous work, and suggest that systematic inquiries be set in motion looking to the completion of the several lines of investigation projected, as outlined in Circular No. 4, of March 1, 1905. Much good, I am sure, will follow the publication and dissemination of information on the subjects there named. But in addition to the elaboration and completion of investigations already entered upon, I wish now to briefly suggest certain new subjects of inquiry to which I desire the energies of the committee directed.

And first, I suggest the preparation of a bibliography of Confederate bibliographies.

Secondly, the compilation of a bibliography of civil and military lists of the Confederate States, 1860-1865.

Thirdly, a calendar of existing newspaper files available for the study of the South, 1860-1865.

Fourthly, a study of the present attitude of the North to Confederate history as presented through (1) historical works, general and local, (2) their schools; (3) their libraries; (4) party policies; and (5) in any other way.

A report on these subjects will be of great practical value and usefulness. In my opinion it is far more important for our Confederation to engage in investigations of this character, looking to results of practical concern to the student and historian, than to discuss, however learnedly, the right of secession, the justice of our cause, etc., etc. In no historical field is there at present more interest than in the Southern field, particularly during the period of the Confederacy. It is our imperative duty to contribute somewhat to intelligent methods of investigating that history. This can not be better accomplished than by pursuing the course already adopted, enlarged as herein indicated.

Considerable research will be necessary to bring together the information sought, but I am sure you will be equal to the task. If agreeable to you, I will undertake to make the compilations called for in the first, second and third suggestions. Of course I shall expect your assistance as far as it can be given. You can, therefore, devote yourself particularly to the fourth, and to the completion of the investigations projected in Circular No. 4.

Activities of the Committee.

Fifteen hundred separates of the report of 1906 have been printed, by authority of the convention at New Orleans. The report has been distributed as contemplated, and has also been widely circulated among persons interested in the direction and promotion of education.

The following letter, under date of May 27, 1907, was sent out with the report:

Under another cover I am mailing you a copy of the Report of the Historical Committee of the United Sons of Confederate Veterans, made at the reunion in New Orleans, 1906.

The reunion convention directed by special resolution that a copy of this report be sent each State, county and city superintendent of education and to other persons interested in the direction and promotion of education in the Southern States, and it is in compliance with this action of the convention that the report is being sent you.

It was the desire of the committee to give a full and complete review of the general interest in the study and writing of the history of the South, especially the period of the War of Secession and Reconstruction, and the extent and character of the teaching of this history in the schools, colleges and universities of the country.

It is hoped that an examination of this report will lead you to co-operate actively with the committee in arousing general interest in the study and writing of this period of our history, and in the collection and preservation of the source material for its full and accurate presentation.

It is most earnestly desired that you co-operate in the effort to form a public opinion that will demand a full and fair treatment, in all textbooks used in our educational institutions of all grades, and in all historical works of whatever character, of the position of the South on the great questions that culminated in the epic struggle of the sixties, and the more tragic years that followed.

Please make early acknowledgment of this report, and write me fully as to the conditions suggested in this letter and in the report.

The chairman of the committee has by correspondence with professors of history in colleges and universities, teachers of history in grammar and high schools, librarians, students and writers of Southern and Confederate history, and by personal interviews with many of these persons, endeavored to inform himself as to the progress being made in the proper teaching of this period of our history.

It is gratifying to be able to report that as our educational facilities are being extended and improved there is a corresponding improvement in the teaching of the history of the South, both in the amount of time given to its study and in the effectiveness of the teaching.

A result of this improvement in the teaching of the history of the period of the War of Secession is the development of a general interest in this history. An evidence of this growing interest in the period of our history with which we are specially concerned as Sons of Veterans is the large number of books that have recently been published on the War and Reconstruction as shown by the current bibliographies published in our report for 1906, and also to appear in this report.

Outline of Investigations.

The investigations have been continued as in the report for 1906, which were given in Circular No. 4, as follows:

It is desired to include in the report information on the following topics specially, and on any others of interest and value in the study of the history of the Confederacy.

1. Number and character of textbooks on American history in use in Southern institutions of all grades, including specially name and character of texts adopted for use in the public schools, with a detailed review of their treatment of the period of the War between the States, 1861-1865.

2. Extent and character of courses, if any, in the history of the War and Reconstruction offered in the universities and colleges of the country, and the extent of the teaching of these subjects in the schools of the South.

3. Descriptive list of printed collections of War and Reconstruction material.

4. Descriptive list of manuscript collections of material relating to the War and Reconstruction.

5. Bibliography of current literature bearing on the War and Reconstruction period, such as magazine articles, biographies, reminiscences, etc., etc.

6. Report of State aid for historical work by the creation of departments of Archives and History, or in other ways.

7. An account of work of students doing original or special work in Confederate or Southern history.

8. An account of historical work or study by organizations of Veterans, Sons of Veterans, Daughters of the Confederacy, Memorial Associations, etc.

The additional subjects of investigation as suggested in the letter of the Commander-in-Chief previously quoted are:

First, the preparation of a bibliography of Confederate bibliographies.

Second, the compilation of a bibliography of civil and military lists of the Confederate States, 1860-65.

Third, a calendar of existing newspaper files available for the study of the South, 1860 to 1865.

Fourth, a study of the present attitude of the North to Confederate history as presented through (1) historical works, general and local; (2) their schools; (3) their libraries; (4) party policies; and (5) in any other way.

It is not deemed advisable or necessary to go into a full discussion of all the eight topics given in Circular No. 4, as was done in the report for 1906, since there have been but few changes in or addition to the work as given in that report. There has been, however, much progress of work as shown in the current bibliography in this report and noted in other ways in the report.

In the matter of school textbooks in use in the schools of the South there have been only two changes affecting any large number of schools since the report of 1906 was presented. One was the adoption, in June, 1906, of Thompson's *History of the United States*, written by Waddy Thompson, now residing in Georgia, for use in the public schools of South Carolina; and the other was the adoption, in August, 1906, of a *Primary History of the United States*, written by Dr. Henry Alexander White, of South Carolina, for use in the public schools of North Carolina.

Publications Touching Southern or Confederate History of the War and Reconstruction Period, issued from January 1, 1906, to date.

The current bibliography which follows was furnished the committee by the courtesy of Dr. Herbert Putnam, Librarian of Congress, and compiled by Mr. W. A. Slade under the direction of Mr. A. P. C. Griffin, Chief Bibliographer of the library.

The value of printing a bibliography of this character in this connection is to show the extent and character of the interest on the part of students and writers in this period of history, and to stimulate the interest of the members of our organization and of other persons into whose hands the report may come.

Books.

AVARY, MRS. MYRTA (Lockett). Dixie after the war; an exposition of social conditions existing in the South during the twelve years succeeding the fall of Richmond. With an introduction by General Clement A. Evans; illustrated from old paintings, daguerreotypes and rare photographs. New York: Doubleday, Page & Co., 1906. (10), [ix]-x, 435 pp. Frontispiece. Plates. Portraits. 8°

CASLER, JOHN OVERTON. Four years in the Stonewall brigade. 2d ed., revised, corrected and improved, by Maj. Jed Hotchkiss. Girard, Kansas: Appeal Publishing Co., 1906. 365 pp. Illustrations. Portraits. 12°.

CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL LITERARY SOCIETY, *Richmond, Va., Confederate Museum*. Catalogue of the Confederate museum of the Confederate Memorial Literary Society. Richmond, Va.: Ware & Duke print, 1905. 300 pp. Frontispiece. 8°.

DUKE, BASIL W. Morgan's cavalry. New York and Washington: The Neale Publishing Co., 1906. x, [11]-441 pp. Portraits. Maps. 8°.

FLEMING, WALTER LYNWOOD, *ed.* Documentary history of reconstruction—political, military, social, religious, educational and industrial—1865 to the present time, with facsimiles. Cleveland, Ohio: The A. H. Clark Co., 1906-07. 2 vols. Frontispieces. Plates. Facsimiles. 8°.

GOODE, JOHN. Recollections of a lifetime. New York and Washington: The Neale Publishing Co., 1906. x, (2), [13]-266 pp. Frontispiece. 8°.

HAMILTON, JOSEPH GRÉGOIRE DE ROULHAC. Reconstruction in North Carolina. Raleigh, N. C.: Presses of Edwards & Broughton, [c1906]. 264 (2) pp. 8°.

HAMILTON, PETER JOSEPH. The reconstruction period. Philadelphia: Printed for subscribers only by G. Barrie & Sons (1906) (6), v-xxi, 571 pp. Frontispiece. Plates. Portraits. Facsimiles. 8° (The history of North America; Francis Newton Thorpe, *ed.* [vol. 16]).

HEADLEY, JOHN WILLIAM. Confederate operations in Canada and New York; illustrated by portraits. New York and Washington: The Neale Publishing Co., 1906. 9, [xi]-xii, [13]-486 pp. Frontispiece. Portraits. 8°.

MUNSON, JOHN WILLIAM. Reminiscences of a Mosby guerrilla. New York: Moffat, Yard & Co., 1906. x, (4), 277 pp. Frontispiece. Plates. Portraits. Facsimiles. 8°.

MURRAY, JOHN OGDEN. The immortal six hundred; a story of cruelty to Confederate prisoners of war. Winchester, Va.: The Eddy Press Corporation, 1905. 274 pp. Portraits. 12°.

REAGAN, JOHN HENNINGER. Memoires, with special reference to secession and the civil war.; *ed.* by Walter Flavius McCaleb; with introduction by George P. Garrison. New York and Washington: The Neale Publishing Co., 1906. 351 pp. Plates. Portraits. 8°.

RIDLEY, BROMFIELD LEWIS. Battles and sketches of the Army of Tennessee. Mexico, Mo.: Missouri Printing & Publishing Co., 1906. xvi, [17]-662, [10] pp. Frontispiece. Illustrations. Plates. Portraits. Maps. 8°.

SHEPHERD, HENRY ELLIOT. Life of Robert Edward Lee. New York and Washington: The Neale Publishing Co., 1906. 280 pp. Frontispiece. Plates. Portraits. 8°.

STRIBLING, ROBERT MACKEY. Gettysburg campaign and campaigns of 1864-1865 in Virginia. Petersburg, Va.: The Franklin Press Co., 1905. x, [11]-308 pp. 12°.

TAYLOR, WALTER HERRON. General Lee, his campaigns in Virginia, 1861-1865, with personal reminiscences. Norfolk, Va.: For sale by the Nusbaum Book & News Co. [Brooklyn, N. Y.: Press of Braunworth & Co., c1906] x, 314 pp. Maps. 8°.

UNDERWOOD, JOHN LEVI. The women of the confederacy, in which is presented the heroism of the women of the confederacy with accounts of their trials during the war and the period of reconstruction, with their ultimate triumph over adversity. Their motives and their achievements as told by writers and orators now preserved in permanent form. New York and Washington: The Neale Publishing Co., 1906. xvii, 19]-313 pp. Frontispiece. 8°.

WISE, JOHN S. Recollections of thirteen presidents. New York: Doubleday, Page & Co., 1906. (14), 3-284 pp. Portraits. 8°.

WYETH, JOHN ALLAN. Gen. Robert E. Lee. Commemorative address before the New York Southern society on the anniversary of the great commander's birth, January 19, 1906. [New York: Press of Unz & Co., 1906] 22 pp. 8°.

Progress and Results.

The work contemplated under sections one, two and three in the Commander-in-Chief's letter of September 3, 1906, has grown to such proportions that it has been impossible to complete it in time for this report and it would not be practicable to print it in the report if it were completed. Progress is being made with this work and it will be brought out later in some form, probably in a special publication.

It is difficult to condense into a report like this any adequate discussion of topic four. It is practically impossible to give a critical review of any large number of the historical works that have recently been issued from the press. Therefore no attempt will be made to name and criticize any particular historical works, as the naming of even a large number of books either for favorable or unfavorable criticism would result in emphasizing the merits and demerits of the books discussed unduly, when considered in connection with the large number of books it would be necessary to examine, if any adequate discussion of this topic should be attempted.

There are many books issued and circulated in the North which are not fair to the South in the treatment of the War and Reconstruction periods. There has, however, been marked improvement in the treatment of this period of our history by many Northern writers in recent years, and a number of notable books have been issued which are reasonably fair in their treatment both in the spirit and quantity of subject matter presented.

The teaching of history in the schools of the North is largely by means of school textbooks on United States History to which public sentiment in the South has objected and which have not been used to any extent in Southern schools. In the larger colleges and universities of the North the attitude towards Southern ideas and institutions varies greatly and is generally dependent on the views and opinions of the professors of history in these institutions. In some of the large universities there is marked liberality and fairness in the presentation of War and Reconstruction history.

The librarians of the large libraries of the North are endeavoring to make their libraries as complete as possible by supplying them with works on Southern and Confederate history. One reason why these libraries have been deficient in this class of

publications in the past has been due to the lack of publications, prepared by students in the South, treating this period of history.

There have been recently many events which indicate that the people of the North are coming more and more to understand and appreciate the patriotism of the Southern people in the great struggle in defense of Southern independence.

There has been no more significant event of this character than the placing on a monument recently unveiled at Salem Church, Virginia, to commemorate the services of the Twenty-third New Jersey Regiment on that historic battlefield, a tablet on which is written: "To the brave Alabama boys, our opponents on this field of battle, whose memory we honor, this tablet is dedicated."

The *Outlook* commenting editorially on the unveiling of this monument, said:

No memorial of the great struggle and of the magnificent heroism which it evoked on both sides has more fittingly interpreted the spirit of that contest and the attitude of the Nation than the monument recently unveiled to commemorate the services of the Twenty-third New Jersey Regiment at the battle of Salem Church, Virginia. The men of this regiment made a magnificent fight, and have now given their achievement an added luster by the form of their memorial. One side of the monument bears a tablet with this inscription, "To the brave Alabama boys, our opponents on this field of battle, whose memory we honor, this tablet is dedicated." The monument thus becomes not only the memorial of a great struggle, but of a great spiritual and moral victory, quite as significant and of greater nobility than that which was won a generation ago on the battlefields of Virginia. The men, North and South, who met one another on the field, were the first to forget old animosities and remember the common heroism. No one who knows the Southern temper needs to be told that the "Alabama boys" were quick to respond to the spirit of the "Jersey boys," and that the two groups will cherish together the memory of this heroic struggle.

Conclusion.

The chairman expresses to his associates on the committee his appreciation of their advice and co-operation and to the Commander-in-Chief, Dr. Thomas M. Owen, his sincere thanks for valuable assistance in the preparation of the report.

Auburn, Alabama, June 1, 1907.

GEORGE W. DUNCAN,
Chairman.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



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